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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

151421

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE: 25X1

SUBJECT Special Border Police  
in Russian Zone

INFO.

2 February  
1948

DIST.

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

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1. Since the middle of November 1947, a special formation of German border police has been active in the no-man's-land area around the Bavarian section which extends into Thuringia north of Coburg. The force, consisting of about 150 Germans under Russian command, controls the area between the Bavarian and Thuringian border posts. Its chief function is to make spot checks of travelers crossing the border in either direction, including persons who live in the American Zone and work in the Russian Zone.
2. Many of the police refer to themselves as "Seydlitz Troopers." These have all been in Russia and received special training there. Their uniforms are similar to those of Russian soldiers; their hat device is an eight-pointed police star of aluminum, with a red hammer and sickle engraved in the center. Their methods of interrogation are described by source as "super MWD," and a number of persons they arrested have not been heard of since. The Seydlitz police is independent of the regular Thuringian border police and is directly controlled by the Russians.
3. Although he is sure of only the one formation near Coburg, source believes that similar units are stationed along the Bavarian-Hessian border.

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Comment: The appearance of a special police force made up of "Seydlitz" -- presumably Freies Deutschland -- personnel is in line with the reports of intrusion into the police of Seydlitz followers as reported in

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Class. CHANGED TO: TS  
DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77  
Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763  
Date: 27 APR 1978 By: 016

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